This record is a partial extract of the original cable. The full text of the original cable is not available.

UNCLAS ROME 005560

SIPDIS

DOT FOR INTERNATIONAL AVIATION MCDERMOTT, GRETCH, STREET FAA FOR MAILLET MONTREAL FOR STIMPSON LONDON, PARIS, BRUSSELS ALSO FOR FAA UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 ROME 05560 151500Z

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: <u>EAIR ETRD ECON IT EUN FAA AVIATION</u>
SUBJECT: ITALY MAINTAINS STATUS QUO AFTER ECJ OPEN SKIES
DECISION

REF: A. STATE 221334

¶B. ROME 4883

11. WE CONTACTED ALDO SANSONE, DIRECTOR OF FOREIGN RELATIONS AT THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORTATION AND MARIA LUISA TIMPONE, INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS, ENAC (ITALY'S CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY) REGARDING THE EUROPEAN COURT OF JUSTICE (ECJ) DECISION ON MEMBER STATE OPEN SKIES AGREEMENTS WITH THE U.S. (REF A). BOTH STATED THAT AS ITALY WAS NOT A PARTY TO THE SUIT, THEY DID NOT KNOW HOW ITALY WOULD BE AFFECTED, NOR DID THEY KNOW WHEN OR HOW THE EU WOULD IMPLEMENT THE DECISION. THEY FELT THAT THE DECISION BROUGHT THE EU COMMISSION ONE STEP CLOSER TO GAINING A MANDATE TO NEGOTIATE AN EU/U.S. OPEN SKIES AGREEMENT, BUT THEY DOUBTED THAT THIS WOULD HAPPEN ANYTIME SOON. IN THE MEANTIME, ITALY'S TREATIES IN FORCE WILL REMAIN VALID AND THE SITUATION UNCHANGED.

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